

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**CLERK'S OFFICE**

**REVISED NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING AND PREFILE TESTIMONY DEADLINES  
FOR PRINT PUBLICATION**

**DOCKET NO. 2015-199-WS**

**APPLICATION OF CAROLINA WATER SERVICE, INC. FOR ADJUSTMENT OF RATES  
AND CHARGES AND MODIFICATIONS TO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR  
THE PROVISION OF WATER AND SEWER SERVICE**

On June 30, 2015, Carolina Water Service, Inc. ("CWS" or "Company" or "Applicant") filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") for an adjustment of the Company's rates and charges and modification of certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service. CWS is a public utility, as defined by S. C. Code Ann. § 58-5-10(4), providing water and sewer service to the public for compensation in certain areas of South Carolina.

By Order No. 2015-341, the Public Service Commission approved the merger of Southland Utilities, Inc. ("Southland"), Utilities Services of South Carolina ("USSC") and United Utility Companies, Inc. ("United") into CWS as the surviving entity. In its Application, CWS proposes a partial transition to uniform rates for its customers. Specifically, the Applicant is applying to combine the water service tariffs of the pre-merger CWS customers and the former customers of Southland into one tariff. The Applicant is also proposing to combine the water service tariffs of the former USSC and United customers into one tariff. Each of the tariffs would have distinct rates for water service customers, water distribution customers, and different customer classes. CWS is also proposing a single tariff for all of its sewerage customers. The tariff would have distinct rates for the Company's sewerage collection and treatment and sewerage collection customers and different customer classes.

According to the Application, the proposed rates and charges represent a total increase in revenues of approximately \$4,271,496 or 25.15%, comprised of an increase in water revenues of approximately \$2,042,070 or 23.69%, and an increase in sewer revenues of approximately \$2,229,426 or 26.65%. In support of its request for an adjustment in water and sewer rates and terms and conditions, CWS asserts, among other things, that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary in order that it may provide reasonable and adequate service to its customers, comply with standards and regulations set by the Department of Health and Environmental Control and other governmental agencies which regulate the environmental aspect of the Company's business, cover its expenses, earn a reasonable return on its investment, and attract capital for future improvements. The Company also asserts that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary to preserve its financial integrity and to promote continued investment in and maintenance of its facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality services.

**THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE RATES AND CHARGES ARE available from the Company's counsel at the address below and on the Commission's website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) under Docket No. 2015-199-WS. A notice containing a complete schedule of the rates and charges is also being mailed to the Company's customers and that notice is available on the Commission's website.**

The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code §58-5-240 and S.C. Code Regs. 103-712.4.A and 103-512.4.A. The Company also seeks approval to modify its tariff, pursuant to S.C. Code Regs. 103-503 and 103-703, to include charges to recover costs of reconnecting customers to its facilities in certain circumstances. In addition to any other charges that may be due, in those cases where a customer's water

service has been disconnected for any reason as set forth in Commission Rule R. 103-732.5 a reconnection fee in the amount of \$40.00 would be charged. In addition to any other charges that may be due, in those cases where a customer's sewer service has been disconnected for any reason as set forth in Commission S.C. Code Regs. 103-532.4 a reconnection fee in the amount of \$500.00 would be due at the time the customer reconnects service. Where an elder valve has been previously installed, a reconnection fee of \$40.00 would be charged.

A copy of the Application can be found on the Commission's website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) under Docket No. 2015-199-WS. Additionally, a copy of the Application is available from the office of Charles L. A. Terreni, Esquire, TERRENI LAW FIRM, LLC, 1508 Lady Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that a hearing, pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-817, on the above matter has been scheduled to begin on **November 17, 2015, at 10:30 a.m.**, before the Commission in the Commission's Hearing Room at 101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence from all interested parties. The hearing may continue through **November 18, 2015**, if necessary.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter as a party of record should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **August 14, 2015**. For the receipt of future Commission correspondence, please include an email address in the Petition to Intervene. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2015-199-WS and mail a copy to all other parties in this docket.*** Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify, in writing, the Commission; the Office of Regulatory Staff at 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201; and the company at the above address, on or before **August 14, 2015**. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2015-199-WS.***

**INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD (Applicant, Petitioners, and Intervenors only):**

All Parties of Record must prefile testimony with the Commission and with all Parties of Record. Prefiled Testimony Deadlines: Applicant's **Direct Testimony** Due: **9/22/2015**; Other Parties of Record **Direct Testimony** Due: **10/6/2015**; Applicant's **Rebuttal Testimony** Due: **10/13/2015**; and Other Parties of Record **Surrebuttal Testimony** Due: **10/20/2015**. All prefiled testimony deadlines are subject to the information as posted on [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) under ***Docket No. 2015-199-WS.***

Any person who wishes to request that the Commission hold a public hearing in his or her county of residence in order to hear comments from the utility's customers, should notify, in writing, the Commission; the Office of Regulatory Staff at 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201; and the company at the above address, on or before **August 21, 2015**. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2015-199-WS.***

For the most recent information regarding this docket, including changes in scheduled dates included in this Notice, please refer to [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) and ***Docket No. 2015-199-WS.***

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments in person to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100 or visit its website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Attn: Clerk's Office  
Post Office Drawer 11649

Columbia, SC 29211